

Secretary of State

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE CONTACT:
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Ballots Ready for Citizens Voting Early

For citizens planning to cast their vote prior to the June 10 Election Day, ballots for early-mail and absentee voting are now available from the state's County Auditors, according to Al Jaeger, Secretary of State.

The application to apply for an early-mail/absentee ballot is available from the voter's County Auditor's office or from the Secretary of State's website at www.nd.gov/sos. Voters are not required to provide a reason for requesting a ballot. Upon receipt of the application, the County Auditor will mail a ballot to the voter. After voting, the voter then mails the ballot in a return secrecy envelope to the County Auditor. The envelope must be postmarked no later than June 9.

Prior to the election, voters may also cast an early-mail/absentee ballot in person at their County Auditor's office during regular business hours.

Jaeger also encourages families to remind their military family members and civilians stationed overseas to apply for an early/absentee ballot as soon as possible. The application can be submitted as an attachment to an e-mail message or via facsimile transmission to the County Auditor in the county of the voter's residence. County Auditor contact information is on the Secretary of State's website at www.nd.gov/sos.

State law allows several options for the timely transmission and return of ballots by uniformed voters stationed away from their North Dakota home as well as North Dakota citizens living temporarily out of the United States. For details, voters are encouraged to check the Secretary of State's website. To ensure the ballot is received by the county in time for counting, the process should be initiated immediately.